

East Valley Intergroup, Inc. 1320 E. Broadway, Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85204 480-834-9033 Fax: 480-964-4639 info@aamesaaz.org www.aamesaaz.org

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# NO BOOZE NEWS

## Freedom Fighters Thank You

The following is a letter that we received from the Freedom Fighters (Group Service #717399) in gratitude for the service of the outside AA members who help facilitate their meetings.

It's a new year. By the grace of God, I am sober. As I look around I see the fruitless attempts of a guy trying to iron his socks, damp underwear flapping in the wind of an air circulator, and several guys sleeping one off from the night before. The air is filled with the aroma of instant coffee, processed jalapeno cheese, makeshift menudo and hot sauce. I am besieged by orange as inmates file in and out of my abode. Pitiful and incomprehensible demoralization has returned as I realize lack of power is my dilemma. Alcohol, my master, has once again shown me to prison.

There is a solution, a common way out. It is borne from the belief that soundness of mind can, once again, be restored. At what point had insanity assumed the helm, I wondered? Only in sobriety had I come to understand I was irrationally navigating life abetted by a world unclear of the distinction between normal drinking and alcoholism. From the murk, the darkness, the despair emerged humility, open-mindedness and willingness of sufficient quality to evoke faith that a power greater than myself could restore me to sanity. From that point life took on new meaning. I saw people get better, I watched them help others, and I witnessed loneliness vanish. A fellowship had grown up about me. That fellowship is called Alcoholics Anonymous, and the group is called Freedom Fighters.

Our group is one of incarcerated men who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that we may recover from alcoholism. The only membership requirement is a desire to stop drinking. We are a handful of men who meet daily. Our motley crew would normally not mix had it not been for our common peril and our ubiquitous solution. We grow spiritually together doing our utmost to practice AA's principles in all our affairs.

Its 6:25pm on a Tuesday, and the miracle of AA is about to happen. The usual suspects are present, including the lovely H & I volunteers from the surrounding area. The room is buzzing as reminiscing abounds. The meeting starts; the miracle is near. The meeting closes and our gratitude for our guests permeates the room and our hearts.

As another beautiful sober day draws to a close, we of the Freedom Fighters group are reminded of the generosity of the volunteers who make our Tuesday and Thursday outside speaker meetings a possibility. There continued support affords us the opportunity to have sobriety tokens, pamphlets and AA literature for our newcomers. They also guide us with their extensive experience, strength and hope. Their devotion to service is in keeping with the most coveted traditions of this program, and they have immeasurably touched the lives of the many men passing through on the way to freedom. We are forever indebted to those we honor herein and to those who came before us; thank you all for your commitment to "carry the message."

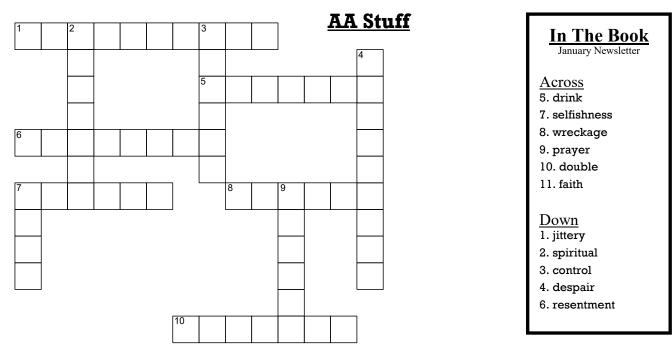
With Our Kindest Regards, Freedom Fighters

(Edited for content and space)

## AA on the Road

A few years back I found myself in Fairbanks, Alaska on my fifth AA birthday. I attended one meeting at the Alano club there, and received warm birthday wishes. Later, I attended a meeting at a Fairbanks hospital. When called upon to speak, I mentioned that it was my birthday, and also said that I'd given my traveling Big Book to a man I had met at a treatment center in Anchorage because he couldn't afford to buy one. Not only did the group wish me a happy birthday, they gave me the group's Big Book as a gift so I wouldn't have to complete my trip without one. I have that book right here on the shelf next to my computer. Different meetings around the country have different customs. In Franklin, New Hampshire, they circulate an Ask-it Basket to be filled with topic suggestions and questions on sobriety before the meeting. In Scottsdale, Arizona, after the speaker is finished, the members break into small groups for face-to-face sharing. In Billings, Montana, people state their sobriety dates when they introduce themselves, while in Portland, Oregon, it's considered bad form to mention one's sobriety date unless it has a direct bearing on the topic at hand. But despite these stylistic differences, the AA message remains the same. By sticking together and following the Steps, one day at a time, people who want to stay sober can do so.

Being insecure by nature, I am often fearful of going into a room full of strangers. But I have always found a warm welcome and often an invitation to coffee or ice cream after the meeting by these strangers. Sure beats sitting around a hotel room watching television! So, next time you find yourself away from home, let your fingers do the walking to the AA number in the nearest phone book. . .you only need to be lonely if you choose to be! *From the December 1997 magazine. Reprinted with permission of the AA Grapevine* 



#### ACROSS

- 1 The number one offender that destroys more alcoholics than anything else.
- 5 A typical AA meeting lasts this long.
- 6 The only requirement for AA membership is the desire to stop doing this.
- 7 As AA members, we would be breaking this tradition if we advertised the fellowship on a radio show.
- 8 Our 7th tradition says that we are self supporting, so we pass this.
- 10 Alcohol is just a.....of the disease of Alcoholism.

#### DOWN

- 2 Making coffee, chairing a meeting and working with other alcoholics are several examples of this.
- 3 Bill was convinced that God is concerned with us humans when we want him.....
- 4 Offering an opinion or advice after a share in a meeting is called this....and is usually discouraged.
- 7 Longtime friend of Bill who planted the seed of hope, which eventually blossomed into Alcoholics Anonymous.
- 9 God could and would if he were.....

## EXTRA! EXTRA! Read All About It!!

Subscriptions are only \$12 a year...we'd love your support!!!

## Attitude of Gratitude

If you are grateful for your sobriety and would like to give back to the program that has so freely given to you, please use the Gratitude With Service form below to volunteer for any of EVI's Standing Committees, such as PI/CPC (Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community), Special Events, Literature, Unity, or Phone Volunteers. Participating in any of these committees can be a great way to carry the message to the still suffering alcoholic, both in and out of the rooms.

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As an ongoing reminder, we are still in need of more volunteers for the 12th Step call list. Although we are great at making sure the phones are answered day or night, finding someone willing and available to do a 12th Step call can sometimes be very challenging, and often times it's hit or miss depending on the time of day. If you have at least one year of continued sobriety and are willing to make yourself available to the alcoholic reaching out to AA for help from time to time, please be sure to complete the form provided below and return to the EVI Central Office via fax, mail, e-mail or in person as soon as possible. Who knows — the life you save could be your own....

EAST VALLEY INTERGROUP – Gratitude With Service form <i>revised 2/09</i> Return to: 1320 E. Broadway Rd., Suite 105 Mesa, AZ 85204 (480) 827-1905 <i>e-maik</i> info@aamesaaz.org www.aamesaaz.org				
Date *Fin	st Name	Last		
Address		*Phone		
*City	*\$T	*Zip *Gender		
*Sobriety Date	Home Group			
e-mail address		Alt Phone		
[] <i>No</i>	* = required for listin <i>Booze News</i> Subscription / Renewal	ting in 12 <sup>th</sup> Step List I (\$12.00 annual subscription fee enclosed)		
Volunteer \$	ervice Options	Committees of Interest		
Check only those you a	re willing to commit time to	Check only those you are willing to serve on		
12 <sup>th</sup> Step List Volunteer [] Weeknights [] Weekends [] Weekdays	Phones Night & Weekend [] Weekends [] Weeknights	<ul> <li>[] Public Information / Cooperation with the Professional Community</li> <li>[] Special Events</li> <li>[] Literature</li> <li>[] Newsletter (<i>No Booze News</i>)</li> </ul>		
[] Office Phone [] Other Office		[] Unity Committee [] Deliver A Meeting		

## Group, District, and Area AA Announcements



### ROUNDUPS, CAMPOUTS AND CONFERENCES

MIRACLES IN THE DESERT

FEBRUARY 23 ~ 25 2020 S Avenue 8e, Yuma Az. (Az Western College)

WEST VALLEY ROUNDUP

MARCH 16 ~ 18 Lake pleasant regional park Peoria, az





VERDE VALLEY ROUNDUP April 13 ~ 15 Verde Valley Fairgrounds Cottonwood AZ.



### Area 03

2018 Pre Conference Assembly April 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018

> 7600 E Broadway Blvd. Tucson, AZ (Hilton Tucson East)

**2018 Post Conference Assembly** 

June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Tombstone, AZ Delegates report from the 2018 GSC EVI 38th Anniversary

Italian Dinner and Speaker Meeting

(Tim H.)

Saturday, March 10th, 2018

Doors Open at 5:30pm Dinner is Served at 6:15pm Speaker Starts at 8:00pm 2716 N Dobson Rd. Chandler

(Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church) See your EVI Rep for tickets

Meal and a Message Saturday, April 14th 2018 Dinner at 6:00pm Speaker at 7:30pm 1525 N Power Rd. Mesa (Love of Christ Lutheran Church) Contact Fred P for tickets

Maricopa County Service Meeting and Workshop 5:30pm February 20th, 2018 3539 E Stanford Dr. Paradise Valley (Gloria Dei Lutheran Church)

## **PRAASA 2018**

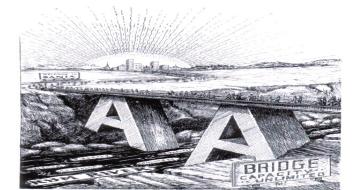
March 2 - 4 2018 1100 Nugget Ave, Sparks NV 89431 (Nugget Casino Resort) 1-800-648-1177

A Solution for all Generations

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## Sobriety Anniversaries

Name	Date	Days
Judy A	2/15/1976	15341
Donna H.	2/4/1981	.13514
Stephen P	2/21/1982	13149
James C	2/1/1983	12784
Pat W	2/2/1985	12053
Kathy K		
Jules L.		
Monica G	2/23/1990	10227
Mathew D.	2/14/1991	9862
Rob W		
Jackie E		
Bev M.		
Buddy M.		
Linda S.		
Rosemarie R.		
Fred R.		
Robert B.		
Phil H.		
Steve S.		
Frank G		
Chera Y		
Mindy B.		
Judy K.		
Jason T	2/17/2000	4018
Megan B.		
Michael K		
Tyler K.		
Lauren K.		
Jason C.		
Ralph C.		
Alex B.		
Kirsten J.		
Mathew D.		
Joel (JJ) G.	2/17/2010 2/17/2010	2022
Mathew F	2/18/2010	2022
Kelly R.		
Devran B.		
Jeremy V.		
Norman H.	2/20/2011 2/11/2012	2102
Brad B.		
Dewey D Grace A	2/22/2012 2/10/2012	1926
		1020
Nancy S		
Scott H		
John K.		
Delia S		1096
Chad C.		
Barbara E		/31



<u>Step Two</u>~ Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.

<u>Tradition Two</u>~ For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.

<u>Concept Two</u>~ The General Service Conference of A.A. has become, for nearly every practical purpose, the active voice and the ef-

grat·i·tude: 逆

the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness. Gratitude is an action.

At Wit's End

## Distilled Spirits

Lately I've been fascinated with the concept of humility. I've read about it, meditated on it, and thoughtfully explored it for several months. It has been absolutely delicious! Then one day at my home group meeting, I was sitting there looking around the room and heard my own mind saying, "I'm more humble than anybody here!" So, scratch that one!

-- Pat B.

Scottsdale, Arizona

From the November 1996 magazine



## GOT SERVICE?? INTERGROUP SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

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## PI / CPC

(Public Information and Cooperation with the Professional Community)

Meets 1st Monday's at 7:00pm

235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert

(Gilbert Presbyterian Church)

Come help carry the message at the public level and to

professional groups who have contact with alcoholics.

For more information contact:

Victor

## EVI Sponsorship Workshop

10am the 1st Saturday of every other month 235 E Guadalupe Rd. Gilbert AZ (Gilbert Presbyterian Church) Contact: Gail H. HOST GROUP SCHEDULE

**March 3rd - Breakfast Club** 

Join the

## **EVI Unity Committee**

Meeting at 6:15pm Every 3rd Friday Antioch Community Church 1125 N. Dobson Rd Chandler Contact Tom N.

## **Help Wanted**

AA volunteer replacements needed for two separate meetings in Florence:

1) ADOC Florence South Unit 9:10 to 10:10 Saturdays

2) CoreCivic, Florence, 11:45 to 1:10 Mondays Both meetings require every other week attendance. If interested contact Bud K.

## **EVI Phone Workshop**



Third Friday's at 6:15 pm Before the monthly business meeting at 1125 N Dobson Rd

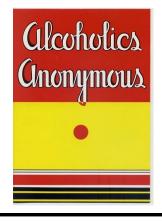
Antioch Community Church

Or

#### Workshops can be done at your Group !



For more information Call Beth H



## **EVI Special Events Committee**

Meeting held before the Monthly Speaker Meeting 1st Friday of the month Antioch Community Church 1125 N Dobson Rd Chandler contact: Deana E.

### **EVI** Monthly Speaker Meeting

### 1st Friday of Every Month

### Meeting Now At 7:30pm

Antioch Community Church 1125 North Dobson Road. Chandler

## **February 2nd - SASTO**

March 2nd - Upon Awakening These are subject to change - so keep watching.

## Central Office Manager's Report January 19, 2018

Happy New Year. Welcome to all the new Intergroup Reps, Steering and Service Committee Members. Your Central office has started the year with the usual increase in activity. The phones are ringing more with curious and concerned looking for information about Alcoholics Anonymous.

Business was good in December with a big rise in 12 step calls. We had 430 requests for information and assistance last month. Of those 110 calls were for meeting info, 124 were office visitors and 18 resulted in a 12 step calls. Our Google listing also receives steady traffic. Our Google totals for December were 9,718 views, 182 went to our website and 44 mapped our location. I'll have the 2017 final activity report together for next month's meeting.

If your Group has recently had a rotation of officers, please take a Group Update form to your next Group Conscious meeting. Have the new officers fill it out completely and return it to the office or bring it to next month's meeting. It is our policy to have current contact information for at least 2 officers of each group listed in our directories. Thanks for your help with this, it is important to keep this information up to date.

The year end physical inventory was completed to close out 2017. It resulted in a growth in inventory of \$53.31. The growth was due to some free books that I brought back from the Seminar last year. Total inventory value at the end of 2017 was \$21,363.60. The 2018 catalogue of AA books and materials has been reformatted for ease of use. Many pamphlets and some books have new cover art.

I hope you all have a very Happy and Sober Holiday season.

In the spirit of Tradition Eight, Love and Service

Kim W.

Central Office Manager East Valley Intergroup

## **EVI CENTRAL OFFICE ACTIVITY**

	Dec	2017
Meeting Information Calls .	110.	1,414
General Information	74 .	1,237
Referred to Salt River Interg	group 3 .	
Referred to Al-Anon		
Referred to Community Info	o1 .	9
12th Step Calls		98
Business Calls	88 .	1,288
Office Visitors	124 .	1,640
Meeting lists printed	1000.	12,200
Info request via E-mail	62 .	618
Desk Volunteers-Reg/Sub/	None	
Desk Volunteers-Reg HRS Y	/TD	3020 hrs
Web	Stats	
Website Visits last 30 days	43,002 YTI	0 464,333
Google Searches last 30 day	vs 9.718	

Meeting List Updates...

#### New Meetings:

Rock Solid	600 S Idaho Rd (Copper Room) Apache Junction TU 7:00p O			
Sunset Sobriety	4444 E Havencrest Dr. Gilbert MO 5:30 BB, O			
	(Power Ranch Clubhouse)			
<u>Changes:</u>				

Grateful Girlfriends 20913 E Ocotillo Rd Queen Creek is now at 6:00pm O Not A Glum Lot **Now Meeting At:**1365 E Elliot Rd. Tempe MO 9:00am W,BB,C Happy Hour 1432 N Scottsdale Rd. Valley Alano, Tempe MO-SA 5:30pm O

#### **Deletions:**

Tempe High Noon

1945 E Guadalupe Rd. MO, WE, FR 12 Noon

East Valley Intergroup 1320 E. Broadway Rd. # 105 Mesa, AZ 85204

General Service Office PO Box 459, Grand Central Station New York, NY 10163

\*\*\* NEW \*\*\* Area 03 Treasurer PO Box 18765 Tucson, AZ 85371 \*\*\* NEW \*\*\*

District 08-818 PO Box 12044 Tempe, AZ 85284 District 08-819 PO Box 594 Mesa, AZ 85211

District 08-820 PO Box 20404 Mesa, AZ 85277

District 08 (Maricopa County) PO Box 45066 Phoenix, AZ 85064

Valleywide H & I PO Box 80126 Phoenix, AZ 85060

#### Example of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities

Distribution of funds from groups that

support four service entities

10% to District -10% to Area

30% to GSO

50% to Intergroup



Reprinted with permission from A.A. World Services, from the pamphlet Self Support.

## **GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS**



GROUP	Dec.	YTD
11th Step Candlelight		
12 X 12 @ 12		
2121 Beginner Workshop		
24 Hours A Day		
A Vision For You Group		\$571.78
ABC Group		\$0.00
AHA! It's Monday		
Ahwatukee Daybreak Serenity		
Ahwatukee Group		
Ahwatukee Nooners		
Ahwatukee Saturday Men's		
Ahwatukee Women's Group		
Arbor Daily Noon Group		
As You Wake Up Attitude Adjustment CG		
Attitude of Gratitude		
Basic II		
Bloopers		
Bootstrap Men's		-
Breakfast Club		
Busted Ego		\$720.00
By The Book		\$438.27
Chandler Men's Stag Group		\$30.92
Chandler Noon Group	\$99.82	\$1,158.82
Chandler Women's Big Book G	-	
Cold Coffee Group		\$0.00
Common Solution		\$0.00
Copper Basin Group		
Courage To Change		
Daily Reflections Group		
Day At A Timers		
East Valley Men's Stag		
Easy Does It Group		
Experience, Strength and Hope Eye Opener Group		
Family Recovery Group		
Feelings & Solutions		
Firehouse Meeting		
Florence Group		
Friday Night Big Book Study		
Friends Of Bill W		\$206.00
Get It Together		\$4,184.46
Gilbert Gals		\$525.00
Gilbert Group		\$0.00
Gold Canyon 12 X 12 Group		\$0.00
Grateful Dames		
Grateful Girlfriends		
Gratitude Group		
Gut Level		
Happy Hour @ Sunbird		
Heard It Thru The Grapevine		
Into Action		
Inwardly Reorganized		
Keep It Simple Keepin It Real Ladies		
Life In The Big Book		
Maricopa 12 X 12		
Maricopa Group		
Maricopa Group		
Mid-Morning Group		
Morning After Group		
Name In The Hat		
New Beginnings		
New Hope Group		
New Spirit Group		\$900.00
No Name AA Group		
Not A Glum Lot		
Page A Day Group		\$3,696.73

GROUP	Dec.	YTD
Pioneer Group		\$84.20
Price Is Right		
Primary Purpose BB Study		
Primary Purpose Group		
Prime Time		-
Progress Rather Than Perfection		
Puttin' Sober East Putting God First		
Queen Creek Saturday Speaker		
Re-Awakening Group		
Remember When		
Renewed Spirit		
Right Place Women's		\$0.00
Rising Spirit		
Road To Recovery		
Second Chance Group		
Seniors In Sobriety-Tempe		
Serenity At Six Shade Tree		
Sisterhood Of Solutions		
Sobriety is Gold		
Sobriety Rocks		
Society Group		
Solutions Group		
Some Are Sicker Than Others		\$0.00
Southeast Valley Stag		
Spirited Women		
Step By Step Group		
Stepping Stones		
Sunday Morning Women		
Sunday Night BB Step Study Sun Lakes Women		
Sunland Serenity Seekers		
Sunset Group		
Tempe Group		
Tempe Nooners	\$50.00	\$475.00
Tempe Sunrisers	\$200.00	\$200.00
Tempe Young People		
The Library		
The Real Thing		
The Way Out Group		
Thursday Night Step Group Tuesday Night Steppin Out		
Tuesday's Trudgers		
Tumbleweeds Group	\$200.00	\$600.00
Upon Awakening		
We Ain't Dead Yet		
We Agnostics		
We Can Group		\$0.00
Wednesday Night Step		
Wednesday Night Winners		
Welcome Home		-
West Chandler Men's		
Who's Driving Your Bus?		
Wolf Pack Group Women in Gratitude		
Women in Solution		
Women in Touch		
*Anonymous Groups		
OTHER GROUPS/COMMITTE		
Apache Lake Campout		\$116.21
SWACYPAA		\$0.00
AZ AA Womens Conference		
Dist 08-818		
Mesa Round Up		
Group Totals		
EVI Committees		-
Individual Contributions		-
GRAND TOTALS	-	61,898.52
(*Group contribution with no group name lis	sieuj	

inancial Statements	(		Page 9
BALANCE SH December 31,		PROFIT & LOS Decemb	
Assets Current Assets Checking Prudent Reserve (Savings) Accounts Receivable Inventory Asset Undeposited Funds Fixed Assets	2,419.45 24,824.35 524.45 21,363.60	24 Group contributions totali 2 Individual contributions tota Intergroup Business Meeting & Service Committee's 7th Trad Total Contributions <b>Total Income</b>	ling \$160.00
Cash On Hand Office Equip/Furnishings Depreciation	50.00 22,538.00 (-22,538.00)	Less total Cost Of Sales Gross Profit	\$3,122.06 \$6,037.76
Total Assets iabilities & Equity	\$49,492.15	Less total Expenses of	\$6,672.79
Liabilities Accounts Payable Visa Credit Card Payroll taxes Total Liabilities Equity Opening Balance Equity Retained Earnings Net Income Total Equity Total Liability & Equity	0.00 9.99 0.00 <b>\$9.99</b> 43,778.94 146.27 5,556.95 \$49,482.16 <b>\$49,492.15</b>	Net Nov. Loss YTD 2017 Gain The current Prudent Reserve The Prudent Reserve has been established for 2017 in the am Please call me with any questi regarding the financial statem Grateful to be of service, Lois L. EVI Treasurer	ount of \$24,859.46
ress Himself in our grou	oup purpose there o conscience. Our	<b>itions Checklist</b> s but one ultimate authority—a loving eaders are but trusted servants; they officers, AA committees, and office worke	do not govern.

3. Do I look for credit in my AA jobs? Praise for my AA ideas?

4. Do I have to save face in group discussion, or can I yield in good spirit to the group conscience and work cheerfully along with it?

5. Although I have been sober a few years, am I still willing to serve my turn at AA chores?

6. In group discussions, do I sound off about matters on which I have no experience and little knowledge?

#### East Valley Intergroup Business Meeting Minutes

#### January 19, 2018

Meeting Opened by Ed at 7:08pm with Moment of Silence followed by Serenity Prayer

12 Traditions ready by – Pat

**INTRODUCTIONS:** Your attendance and participation are appreciated and visitors are always welcome!

#### **Intergroup Representatives:**

**New Reps:** Pat Price is Right, Amy Serenity Sisters, Tim Sunset Sobriety, Pete Breakfast Club, Jim Steppin Out, Michelle Women in Gratitude, Kate Step by Step, Inez The Society, Karen The Society, Laura New Spirit, Karla BB Sunday Night QC, Brenda Vision for You, Bill QC Nooners, Ed Maricopa, Chris Bloopers, Segrid Chandler Women's BB

Buddy M. Aha, It's Monday, Mary Z. Attitude of Gratitude, Larry R. Basic II, Crish Bloopers, Erin H. Chandler Women's BB, . Wendy W. Gilbert Group, Anne H. GIT, Dawn D. Grateful Girlfriends, Mary M. Life in the BB, Beth M. Monday Night Madness, Vicki B. New Spirit Group, Peg D. Not A Glum Lot, Sherry B. Page A Day, Dillion P. Price is Right, Robyn-Putting God First, Tim G. SNBBSS, Jeri H. Sobriety Rocks, Mallory E. SOSTO, Peg D. Spirited Women, Katelyn B. Step By Step, Chuck E. Stepping Stones, Dave K. Sunset Group, Cat M. The Real Thing, Collin K. The Way Out, Ron N. Tuesday Trudgers, Paul B. Tuesday Night Stepping Out, Troy S. Tumbleweeds, Keith M. Upon Awakening, Beth H. We Agnostics, Gary L. Welcome Home, John K. Who's Driving Your Bus?

Service Posi- tion	Name	Service Position	Name	Service Posi- tion	Name
Chair	Ed B	Advisor - Unity	Eddie	Phone Chair	Beth
Vice Chair	Chuck C.	Office Manager	Kim	H&I Liaison	
Treasurer	Lois L	Unity Chair	Tom N.	Spanish Liai- son	Marge
Secretary	Andrea	PICPC Chair	Victor	Alanon Liaison	Rose- mary B.
Advisor Special	Steve	Special Events Chair	Deana	DCM 08-818	Michelle
Advisor - PICPC	Mark	Sponsorship WorkShop	Gail	DCM 08-819	Jason S.
Advisor - Phones	Dave K	No Booze News	Maria	DCM 08-820	Carol W.

#### Committee and other Trusted Servants: (N/P = Not Present)

Secretary's Report: Motion to accept- Gary, Second- Carol W.

**Treasurer's Report:** Lois, in packet; Slight loss in Dec but YTD was up and able to bring Prudent Reserve back to goal. \$5555 to the good! Thank you and great year! Reviewed reports and how to locate individual group contributions. Tom N. asked if we have the 2018 Prudent Reserve goal. Lois explained she will calculate and have on report in Feb. Motion to accept-Jason, Second-Molly. *7*<sup>th</sup> Tradition:

Chairperson's Report: Ed B – Not too much to say, but here tonight!

**Vice Chair's Report:** Chuck – Report in Packet; attended every sub-district meeting this past month, commented on enthusiasm in East Valley at GSR and EVI level. Events upcoming are website and flyers in back, March 10<sup>th</sup> is EVI Anniversary Dinner. GS dates to Feb 20<sup>th</sup> Service workshop for District 8, April 6<sup>th</sup> Area Assembly in Tucson-important because delegate will share our voice to New York. Gary L.-commented about GSR workshop and perhaps EVI could hold new rep workshop, Ken reminded group about Day of Service event!

Office Manager Report – Kim W — Report in packet. Busy month so far, December call were up, Set up 18 Twelve step calls in Dec., Seems to be on the same pace January, website busy, next month will report 2017 final activity report, Please use group update form if your group has new officers- we need to keep our contact information current, Year end physical inventory total- \$21,363. Service Day at office is on Friday, January 26. Typo in report, please correct in your packet.

#### STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

**PICPC:** Victor- First meeting of the year was last year, new in position, brought flyer to help explain what PI/CPC does in the community, Please take flyers back to homegroup because we do need help! Discussed ways to create awareness in the fellowship, EVI sub district

**Special Events:** Deana- Reminded group about monthly speaker meeting here in this room. The Special Events committee meets before and really would love some help, Largest event of the year – Anniversary Dinner is coming up March 10<sup>th</sup>!! We have tickets tonight! Please get tickets after the meeting tonight, hoping

Phone Committee: Beth- workshop completed at Easy Does it Alcathon and signed up 4, Also had 4 people for tonight, Need a regular

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#### **Business Meeting Minutes Continued**

**Unity Committee:** Tom N.- New chair and excited to see how many people are here! Explained Unity purpose is to target groups registered in the EV but not attending this business meeting, will go out and visit that meeting and drop off friendly reminder about EVI business meeting and having a rep for the group, Unity is always looking for members, meets on third Friday before this business meeting.

**Sponsorship Workshop**: Gail- Explained thhe Sponsorship Workshop schedule, Sunset hosted in January, Breakfast Club is hosting in March

**Newsletter Editor** – Maria- NP, Kim stated January No Booze News was filled with all local stories!!! NO Booze News comes to all reps so Rep can Share with group!

Literature- Eric- NP

#### LIASION REPORTS

Alanon Liaison: RoseMary- Jan 27<sup>th</sup> , Family Recovery Night, Flyers in back!

#### **H&I Liaison:**

Spanish Liaison - Marge - NP

Sub District 08-818: -Michelle – Writing skits for concepts, looking to get Quarterly Speaker Meeting set up

Sub District 08-819: Jason- All new group at last meeting, great to see new faces in GS

**Sub District 08-820**: –Carol- First Pot luck is Tomorrow night at Epiphany Church in AJ, Gold Canyon group putting on dinner, Dinner at 6PM< Speaker at 7PM.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**H&I Liasion-** Ed explained need for liaison, still looking for someone to fill spot, if anyone is interested we'd like to hear from you, Lois asked for meeting- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, please take back to group or sponsees!! Amy S asked about timeframe for position, Amy S stated she would take that position!

Amy S. stood to qualify, Ed appointed here, All in favor!

#### **NEW BUSINESS:** none

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Tempe Bloopers has new Spanish meeting at 7PM on Tuesday, Open Meeting

Tim- Sunset Sobriety is new meeting this Monday, BB topic meeting, Power Ranch Community

Kim-Easy Does It group is re-doing floors so next week the meetings will be held at the old "bar" in the strip mall

Deanna- TICKETS for dinner, please come get them!!!

#### **Group Problems & Solutions:**

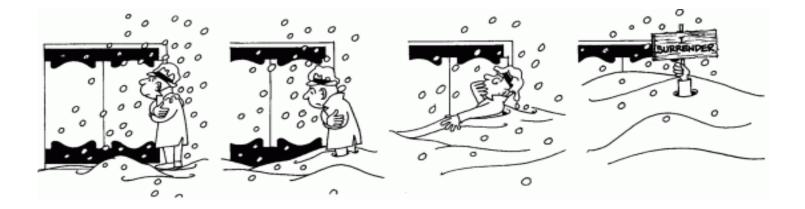
Deanna asked about smoking concerns here at Antioch. Ed responded that no more complaints have been reported. We have committee that checks grounds after meetings. Reminded of smoking area in grassy area only.

Jason- asked about decline in sub district and wondering if he can bring GSR flyer to this meeting? Ed explained that is no problem, bring and set on back counter.

Close Meeting: Motion to close- Victor, Second- All !! closed with Statement of Responsibility

Thank you,

Andrea M.



## How I Took Step Two

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## A scientist gives up being right and a spiritual awakening follows

I had been in the program about a month and a half when my sponsor and I had "one of those talks." "You have to believe in God," he said. "There is no God," said I. I had not believed in God since I was in fifth or sixth grade. In the intervening thirty years, I had built a formidable intellectual edifice against God. There was no God, and I could prove it. Naturally, I was having a hard time with Step Two.

It's not that I hadn't been trying. I had gone around to several people I respected, in search of an atheistic spirituality. I believed there were powers greater than I: get hit by a bus, I thought, and you'll find a power greater than yourself. I attended Quad A meetings--Alcoholics Anonymous for Atheists and Agnostics. They talked about the group being a power greater than self. I had also heard "Good Orderly Direction." I knew the litany. Nothing grabbed me. I was a scientist, and scientifically there was a lot of evidence that there is no supernatural, no inexplicable force doing things in the world. Man had created God in his own image and imbued Him with his peculiarly human powers of creativity.

We continued this discussion for what seemed like five minutes. In short, it was pretty inane. I finally said, in exasperation, "Maybe I'm in the wrong program." "No! You're in the right program!" was the sharp reply.

I was contemplating this, sitting on the back porch smoking a cigarette. I had tried to quit, but been unsuccessful. My treatment program had told me, " 'First Things First.' One thing at a time. You can quit smoking later." My wife didn't want me smoking inside, so I was on the back porch in January contemplating what I was going to do with the program. His final statement had been common ground. I was in the right program. Besides, I had nowhere else to turn. "I'm right and he's wrong. There is no God," I thought. I mulled this over and over in my head. "He's wrong and yet he has the program. In order to get it, I have to have a higher power, but I'm right, there is no God."

It was then that the moment of clarity came. I have since heard that a spiritual awakening is easy: any time any alcoholic anywhere understands any part of the truth, that's a spiritual awakening. It occurred to me that what was important to me was that I was right and my sponsor was wrong. I knew. I was scientific and tried to follow the dictates of science. But by then I had heard, and believed, that my best thinking had got me here. I knew, beyond any shadow of a doubt, that I had not the slightest idea how to live my life. I had been an utter failure, and that's how I got to AA.

I thought, "I can give that up." I realized I didn't have to be right. More than that, I thought, "You know, maybe I ought to believe just because they tell me to. It would help me remember that I don't know everything. It would be inconsistent and all my thinking has had to be so damn consistent that I wound up in AA." I once heard that "foolish consistency is the hobgoblin of little minds." Maybe I needed to be a little bigger and be able to say, "Yeah, I admit I don't know everything. I'm so blasted scientific, yet I believe in God." I felt a real calm. I went about my business.

Later that afternoon I went to my Quad A meeting. I commented on my little epiphany. During the meeting, I realized that I was smoking a cigarette but I didn't want it. I left the pack on the table. I have not had a desire to smoke a cigarette, or, for that matter, take a drink of alcohol, since that date, more than a dozen years ago. I have always thought that was the narrowest possible basis on which to base a belief in God. But through even that little crack of the door, the light shone through. My faith in God has grown immeasurably. I pray on my knees each morning and evening and in less formal ways throughout the day. I see today that God was doing for me what I could not do for myself. It was God that brought me to AA and to my sponsor. And it was AA that brought me to God.





Please send us your stories, MAIL, EMAIL OR CALL IT IN!!



I'd like to hear your story and put it in the No Booze News! Mail your story to the Intergroup office, or email it to me! Or call me and tell it to me and I'll write it down! Please include your name and phone number. We reserve the right to edit for content and/or clarity.

Maria D. info@aamesaaz.org THANKS!